

AGENDA SUMMARY PAGE - PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT
CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF: DECEMBER 5, 2007

DEPARTMENT: PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

DIRECTOR: M. MARGO WHEELER

☐ Consent ☒ Discussion

SUBJECT:

SPECIAL USE PERMIT

SUP-24780 - PUBLIC HEARING - APPLICANT: NEVADA PARTNERSHIP FOR HOMELESS YOUTH - OWNER: UNIVERSITY BOARD OF REGENTS - Request for a Special Use Permit FOR A PROPOSED SOCIAL SERVICE PROVIDER at 818 East Sahara Avenue (APN 162-03-801-046 and 059), C-1 (Limited Commercial) Zone, Ward 3 (Reese). Staff recommends DENIAL. The Planning Commission (5-0-1 vote) recommends APPROVAL

PROTESTS RECEIVED BEFORE:

Planning Commission Mtg.

4

City Council Meeting

6

APPROVALS RECEIVED BEFORE:

Planning Commission Mtg.

4

City Council Meeting

4

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends DENIAL. The Planning Commission (5-0-1 vote) recommends APPROVAL, subject to conditions.

BACKUP DOCUMENTATION:

1. Location and Aerial Maps
2. Conditions and Staff Report
3. Supporting Documentation
4. Photos
5. Justification Letters
6. Protest postcards
7. Submitted after final agenda – Protest/support postcards
8. Submitted after meeting – Recordation notice of Council action and conditions of approval
9. Backup referenced from the 11-08-07 Planning Commission Meeting Item 25

Motion made by GARY REESE to Approve subject to conditions

Passed For: 6; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 1

RICKI Y. BARLOW, LOIS TARKANIAN, OSCAR B. GOODMAN, GARY REESE, STEVE WOLFSON, STEVEN D. ROSS; (Against-None); (Abstain-None); (Did Not Vote-None); (Excused-LARRY BROWN)

NOTE: COUNCILMAN BARLOW and COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN disclosed that they both served on the Nevada Partnership for the Homeless Youth several years ago, but it does not affect their ability to vote. DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY JIM LEWIS advised that the disclosure is sufficient and there is no need to abstain.

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Minutes:

MAYOR GOODMAN declared the Public Hearing open for Items 92 and 93.

ATTORNEY MARK FIORENTINO, 3800 Howard Hughes Parkway, stated he is a board member of Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth and is representing them in these matters. Nevada Partnership is a non profit organization that provides assistance to youth between the ages of 12 and 17. The organization is currently providing services on Maryland Parkway, and the goal is to purchase and remodel the two vacant buildings, an investment of 1.3 million dollars. The 818 East Sahara Avenue location will become their administrative offices, and 864 East Sahara Avenue will become their services location. ATTORNEY FIORENTINO stressed the importance to show that the commitment is real and backup shows evidence of the residents' support. There have been no problems at the current location, and he noted several letters of support. He thanked COUNCILMAN REESE and his staff for the time they spent on these applications.

Upon COUNCILMAN REESE'S request, ATTORNEY FIORENTINO explained that the facility has limited hours and is open 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. They do not provide overnight sleeping accommodations or on-site cooking or preparations of meals. The youth can go here to get goods and services, such as meal cards from Albertson's or local grocery stores. They can get snacks, water and referral services for health or dental care. Older youth will be provided with referrals for apartments. Maximum stay is two hours for the youth.

ATTORNEY FIORENTINO verified for TEDDY RUSSELL, Las Vegas resident, that the Board of Regents is the current property owner and they will eventually purchase the buildings from them. MR. RUSSELL expressed his support.

BOB BELLIS, President of the John S. Park Neighborhood Association, stated he is very familiar with the program. This project has no impact on the neighborhood. It is a great outreach program for the kids and he knows of the overwhelming support. The media has made this look like an anti-homeless issue but it is something that has programs, and he asked for the Council's support.

TOM McGOWAN, Las Vegas resident, stated that it is difficult to address this type of issue. He pointed out that some questions have not been addressed, such as what kind of homeless youth, the potential implications of any businesses located within a 1,000 foot radius of the site and how homelessness is cured within two hours. It is a seemingly commendable program but the issue goes beyond the applicant or the John S. Park Neighborhood. He is concerned about the homeless youth, as it is a fact that these individuals will benefit to a minor degree. He would support the applications if those questions are answered, otherwise further review is required.

RASHAN JOSHUA COLLINS, Minister in the Lord, indicated that he was informed that a chapel will be on site, so he encourages anything that benefits the youth. He then quoted scriptures from the Bible regarding how people should act towards other individuals. Something

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needs to be done to protect the youth and not allow immorality to continue. He encouraged them to listen to the warning from God.

COUNCILMAN BARLOW acknowledged that the programs and services provided serve a great need for the youth. He commended the applicant as being true role models and he fully supports this project.

COUNCILMAN REESE thanked them for touring the site on Maryland Parkway. He does not think two hours will cure homelessness but the point is helping these individuals. He wished all could visit the existing facility, as they are making a difference. He has received verbal support from some in the community. He applauded all those who served on this board and is glad to be a part of making sure that this continues to be successful.

MAYOR GOODMAN declared the Public Hearing closed for Items 92 and 93.

